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DE RUEHLI #0658 0730827
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 140827Z MAR 07
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5672
RUEAORC/US CUSTOMS AND BORDER PRO WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 2456

UNCLAS LISBON 000658

SIPDIS

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AMEMBASSY MADRID PLS PASS TO THE ICE ATTACHE MADRID; CBP
HEADQUARTERS FOR INA AND FIELD OPERATIONS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OTRA](#) [PO](#)

SUBJECT: PORTUGAL GRANTS COUNTRY CLEARANCE FOR ICE NEVIENE
HABEEB

REF: 091801Z

¶1. Embassy Lisbon welcomes and grants country clearance for ICE Senior Special Agent, Nevienne Habeeb, to travel to Lisbon from March 21 to September 21, 2007. The purpose of the trip is to support the Container Security Initiative (CSI) team in Portugal in providing container security pre-screening for containers destined for the United States.

¶2. Point of contact in Lisbon is POL/ECON Officer Tiffany McGriff.

CONTACT INFO

OFC : 351-21-770-2575
FAX : 351-21-726-6547
CELL: 351-91-959-4823
E-MAIL: McGriffTL@state.gov

¶3. Post understands that no Embassy assistance is requested.

¶4. TRAVEL TIPS: Taxis are relatively inexpensive. Be sure to ask for a receipt (factura). A "taxi voucher" service is available at the airport to arriving passengers. The cost of the voucher depends on the distance of the trip and/or length of time, as well as the type of service required.

¶5. It is possible to use most ATM cards in Multibanco teller machines located throughout Portugal. Although Multibanco does not assess a service charge for this transaction, normal service charges assessed by your own bank will apply. USD 1.00 equals approximately Euro 0.76. The ATM machine will automatically do the exchange.

¶6. THREAT ASSESSMENT: In light of the current worldwide security situation, all Americans are reminded that it is more important than ever to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness. Be sure to vary your times and routes and avoid patterns in your activities. There are no known specific and credible threats to include violent demonstrations, terrorist or criminal acts that would affect your visit. Personnel under the Chief of Mission's authority will be notified of any security advisories issued during the visit. While in Portugal, if you notice any suspicious activity or have any security concerns, the Embassy's Regional Security Officer (RSO) should be notified as soon as possible. The RSO holds a weekly briefing every Thursday at 9:00. It is your responsibility to contact the Regional Security Office to sign-up.

¶7. Portugal has a relatively low amount of street crime. Violent criminal confrontations and the use of weapons are

rare. Burglars and pickpockets are active and visitors are encouraged to safeguard valuables and not carry large amounts of cash or unneeded credit cards. Visitors should also be very careful on crowded streets, in entertainment areas, department stores, restaurants or crowded public transportation. Car crime, such as auto thefts and thefts from vehicles is low. Travelers are warned not to leave valuables in hotel rooms. Eastern European organized crime groups are active in Portugal, but mainly target the immigrant populations. The police and other emergency services in Portugal are adequate. Threat information through the Consular Information Program is available on the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov>. In addition to information on the Internet, U.S. travelers may hear recorded information by calling the Department of State in Washington, DC at (202) 647-5225 from their touchtone telephone, or receive information by automated telefax by dialing (202) 647-3300 from their fax machine.

Hoffman